

1 Interview Summaries

1.1 US Fish and Wildlife Service

Interview Type	Telephone, Federal
Interview Location	
Interview Date	December 13, 2001
Summary Date	December 18, 2001
Interviewer	CDM / Michelle Thaler (thalerma@cdm.com)
Interviewed:	Bob Houston 207-781-8364

Staff Size (approx)

Budget (approx)

URL: <http://www.fws.gov/>

1.1.1 Overview

This US Fish and Wildlife Service acquires spatial data from OGIS as well as the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Department of Marine Resources, and Maine DEP.

1.1.2 GIS Initiatives

1.1.2.1 Data used from Maine OGIS and other state departments

Format

- ESRI software format, either coverages or shapefiles
- UTM Meters NAD83

Exchange Methods

- OGIS data is transferred by tape due to the large data sets that US Fish and Wildlife requires.
- US Fish and Wildlife uses an FTP site as well as e-mail to obtain data from the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. Data is usually downloaded once a year and data sets are updated as they become available.

Data Layers

- All OGIS data layers
- Essential Habitats (from Maine Inland Fisheries and Wildlife)
- Natural Resource Protection Areas (from Maine Inland Fisheries and Wildlife)
- US Fish and Wildlife service receives 1:24,000 scale data from Maine DEP in seamless format. This is basically the OGIS data woven together into functionally unified coverage, as well as with some value added, ie. MIDAS numbers added, Dam locations added)

- NOAA charts converted to geo tiff files by MapTek are used by DEP. US Fish and Wildlife purchased MakTek and then got the NOAA charts they needed from DEP
- Data from Maine Department of Marine Resources is “wonderful”, specifically the field data on eelgrass and shellfish. This data is obtained from Seth Barker at DMR
- DMR staff supplements National Wetlands Inventory data and US Fish and Wildlife gets this data from DMR
- Coastal Marine Geologic Environments data layer is obtained from the Maine Geologic Service

Issues

- Tiling system used by OGIS is an impediment to ease of use.

1.1.2.2 Data given to Maine

1.1.3 Other Relevant Issues

- Currently there is no formal agreement (in the form of a Memorandum of Understanding) between OGIS and US Fish and Wildlife. This has not proved to be a hindrance, however.
- The MOU has proven to be a hindrance when dealing with MassGIS. The MOU ran out and now US Fish and Wildlife can only download data from the MassGIS web site.
- There is a need for a procedure for notification of updates. Kate from OGIS e-mails people when she does updates to some datasets but this process should be formalized.
- US Fish and Wildlife would like to get the E911 data set as a seamless coverage when it is complete
- There is no process for submitting data to OGIS in order to have the data listed on the OGIS web site and available for download
- US Fish and Wildlife would like to see OGIS develop data on a watershed basis as opposed to a tile basis.
- It would be helpful to know what type of data OGIS would like.